I, JAMES P. HOSTY, JR., being duly sworn hereby make this free and voluntary statement to Assistant Director HAROLD N. BASSETT and Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Office, Kansas City, BILL D. WILLIAMS.

I have been advised by Mr. BASSETT of an allegation to the effect that LEE HARVEY OSWALD appeared at the Dallas Office of the FBI sometime shortly before the assassination of President KENNEDY. Further, that on this occasion, OSWALD left a threatening note. I have been further advised of a sworn statement furnished by Mrs. NANNIE LEE FENNER in which she advised that she received a threatening note - the contents, to the best of her recollection, being read to me which was signed by LEE HARVEY OSWALD. Further that on some date following the assassination, Mrs. FENNER asked me whatever happened to the Oswald letter and I allegedly replied, "What letter; I don't know what you are talking about". I have also been advised of a sworn statement from KENNETH C. HOWE in which he advised that he found a note in my work box which HOWE contended there was no doubt to his recollection now that the note had indeed been prepared by OSWALD. Further while HOWE cannot now recall the specifics of the note it is his best recollection that it appearedthreatening in nature. I have also been told

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of an allegation there was a cover-up in the Dallas Office about OSWALD's visit and that the alleged note was never brought to the Bureau's attention.

In addition, to the above, Mr. BASSETT also brought to my attention testimony by Mrs. PAINE before the Warren Commission in 1964 wherein she referred to the fact that OSWALD had told her that he had stopped at the downtown office of the FBI and had tried to see the Agents and left a note. Further, later on in her testimony she advised that she had learned a few weeks prior to her testimony that he never did go to the FBI Office. Further that in an article appearing in a summer issue of the 1964 Redbook Magazine, she stated in reference to the above that she had been told by the FBI that OSWALD had not appeared in the Dallas Office.

The following constitutes my statement relative to the foregoing:

I have previously read the testimony of Mrs. PAINE before the Warren Commission and also read the article in Redbook 1964.

To the best of my recollection of the events of November, 1963, regarding the above, I recall approximately 3, possibly 4, weeks before the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY, coming into the office one evening and Mrs. NANNIE LEE FENNER, receptionist, gave me an envelope containing

a letter with the comment, "her - this is from some nut". I read the letter hurriedly and I cannot recall if it was typewritten or handwritten. The substance of the letter to the best of my recollection was in the nature of a complaint - complaining that I had interviewed the wife of the letter writer without this person's knowledge or permission and said something to the effect "if you want to know something about me come and talk to me directly". This is not a direct quote but a summary of my recollection of the substance of this letter. At the time I got this letter I had thought it was from another subjeect of mine named JIMMY GEORGE ROBINSON, a KKK leader from Garland, Texas, who had made a complaint to the Dallas Office of the FBI alleging his civil rights had been violated by the Garland, Texas, Police Department. Myself and another Agent, who I believe was SA DON CEASAR, had gone to his residence and not finding ROBINSON at home, had interviewed his wife who gave a completely different version of his allegation against the Garland Police Department. Her statement to us completely wiped out the civil rights complaint.

I took this note and stuck it in my workbox along with numerous other serials, notes, etc. I do not recall any signature on this note.

On Nov. 22, 1963 shortly after the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY, I was instructed to immediately return to the Dallas Office for the purpose of drawing up a list of possible Right Wing suspects who were believed responsible for President KENNEDY's assassination. While in the office the SAC, J. GORDON SHANKLIN, received a phone call from an Agent of the Dallas Office from the police department telling him LEE HARVEY OSWALD was in custody at the police department and was believed to be the assassin of President KENNEDY. I overheard this name and immediately told the Agent in Charge that this was one of my cases and that he was a counter-intelligence subject. I immediately got the file and brought it to him. While he was telephoning FBI Headquarters regarding this, Supervisor KENNETH C. HOWE went to the area of my desk and got my workbox and brought it to the SAC. Shortly thereafter, SAC SHANKLIN received a phone call from FBI Headquarters from an unknown Bureau official instructing me, by name, and another Agent who was trained in counter-espionage matters to proceed immediately to the Dallas Police Department to take part in the interview of LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

Upon first entering the office of Capt. WILL FRITZ where OSWALD was being held for interrogation and upon advising

OSWALD of my identity he made the comment, "so you're Hosty, I have heard about you - you were the one who was out talking to my wife and bothering her. If you want to know anything about me you should have come and talked to me" - or something to this effect. Following the interview of OSWALD I returned to the Dallas Office and sometime in the evening of 11/22/63 the letter in question which was in my workbox was brought to my attention by, I believe, Supervisor HOWE - possibly SAC SHANKLIN.

We discussed the possibility of this note being from OSWALD and although at the time I received it I did not believe it was, based upon the statements that he made to me at the Police Department, and made in a letter to the Soviet Embassy whose contents which were made known to the Dallas Office of the FBI following the assassination, we believed it was probable that this letter was from OSWALD.

Numerous questions were being forwarded to the Dallas Office by FBI Headquarters and I was preparing a detailed statement as to exactly what I had done on the case prior to the assassination as well as what I had learned in the interview of 11/22/63 at the Police Department. It is my recollection that I was originally going to include reference to this letter but after further consultation with, I believe, SAC SHANKLIN and

Supervisor HOWE, I was instructed by SAC SHANKLIN to disregard and destroy this letter. It is my recollection this letter was then discarded by myself in a Bureau wastebasket.

I am absolutely and positively certain beyond a shadow of a doubt that there was no threat to do me or any one else bodily harm in this letter because I certainly would have recalled such a threat. It is my recollection this letter was more in the form of a complaint about my bothering the letter writer's wife.

In reference to Mrs. RUTH PAINE's comments in the Redbook Magazine and before the Warren Commission, sometime in the early part of 1964, she made reference to the fact that OSWALD had told her he had gone to the FBI office and had talked to me. I told her this was not true - he had not talked to me. From this, Mrs. PAINE may have drawn the conclusion that OSWALD did not come to the office.

I recall NANNIE LEE FENNER asking me severalweeks after the assassination about a letter from LEE OSWALD. I had been instructed by the Special Agent in Charge not to discuss any of my prior investigation of OSWALD with any unauthorized persons. Mrs. NANNIE LEE FENNER had an extremely

poor reputation in the Dallas Office for being a loud mouth, so for this reason, I I did not feel I should discuss this matter with her. So I answered her question by saying, "What letter" and then changed the subject.

I do not believe any of the above facts constitute a cover-up.

Signed: _____
JAMES P. HOSTY, JR.

Sworn and subscribed before me on
July 17, 1975, at Kansas City, Missouri.

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HAROLD N. BASSETT
Assistant Director

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BILL D. WILLIAMS
Special Agent in Charge
FBI, Kansas City, Missouri